

New Guidelines for Sugar Export

1658. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI ANANT GUDHE :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether sugar export has shown a dismal performance;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for fall of export in sugar;

(c) whether the Agricultural Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) has framed new guidelines for the export of sugar;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether sugar exports is likely to suffer further due to stickiness of norms;

(f) if so, the steps being taken in this regard; and

(g) if not, the extent to which the new guidelines will help in boosting the export of sugar ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The past three sugar seasons have seen a growth in sugar exports as follows :

Sl. No.	Sugar Season (Oct.—Sept.)	Sugar Exported (in lakh tonnes) (Prov.)
1.	1993-94	0.75
2.	1994-95	0.41
3.	1995-96	8.92
4.	1996-97 (upto Jan., 1997)	2.92

(c) and (d) The Agricultural Processed Foods Export Development Authority (APEDA) have issued a trade notice on 17.2.97 for the export of 2.5 lakh tonnes of sugar. The export of sugar can be carried out by individuals, firms, sugar factories, etc. after obtaining Registration-cum-Allocation Certificates from APEDA.

(e) No, Sir. With the promulgation of the Sugar Export Promotion (Repeal) Ordinance, 1997 on 15.1.97, the export of sugar has been decanalised thereby relaxing the norms.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) It is not possible to quantify the level of sugar exports for a future date as these depend on a host of factors including prevailing international sugar prices.

[Translation]

Research Institutes

1659. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many institutes in the country are undertaking the agricultural research work;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the development and extension of these research institutes during the past years after signing the GATT agreement; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time schedule prescribe for bringing these institutes at par with international level ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is regular process for the development and upgradation of Agricultural Research Institutes to strengthen their research capabilities to meet the emerging needs. A National Centre on DNA Fingerprinting has been established. Need based reorientation/strengthening of research capabilities are projected in the Report of the Working Group on Agricultural Research & Education for the IX Plan.

(c) Strengthening and upgradation of research institutes is an on-going process and therefore, no time schedule is prescribed for bringing them at par with international level.

[English]

New Deep Sea Fishery Port

1660. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to construct a new deep sea fishery port at Agardanda in Raigadh District of Maharashtra is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to clear the same ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Air Pollution Levels

1661. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: